104. Needs of the Mavelikara taluk.

MR. V. K. OOMMAN (*Municipal Council, Mavelikara*) said that the Mavelikara taluk was one of the most important taluks in the State and considering its central position a District Court had been formerly established in the taluk. But during a subsequent re-arrangement of territorial jurisdiction of District Courts, the Mavelikara District Court was abolished. With the increase in litigation the necessity for a District Court was keenly felt and many representations had been made urging its necessity. But the Government did not grant the request probably on financial grounds. It would be possible however to comply with the request without incurring any additional expenditure. The Pattanamtitta, Tiruvalla, Kartikapalli, Karunagapalli and Kunnattur taluks, adjoining the Mavelikara taluk had their own Munsiffs' Courts with their appellate jurisdiction distributed over three District Courts, *viz.*, the Kottayam, Alleppey and Quilon District Courts. All these courts had temporary additional judges. If a District Court be established at Mavelikara, all the temporary additional judges could be dispensed with. The taluks of Tiruvalla, Pattanamtitta, Kunnattur and Kartikapalli and the adjoining *pakuthies* of the Karunagapalli taluk could be brought under the jurisdiction of the proposed District Court at Mavelikara.

There was formerly a Magistrate's Court at Mavelikara, but at the time of the re-adjustment of the territorial jurisdiction of the criminal courts this court was abolished. The people were put to much inconvenience as they had to get relief from the Second Class Magistrate's Court at Kayankulam or the First Class Magistrate's Court at Alleppey. A First Class Magistrate's Court should be established at Mavelikara. This would be useful not only to the people of Mavelikara but also to the people of the adjoining taluks. If this could not be done immediately, the local Tahsildar might be invested with magisterial powers. If the Kartikapalli Tahsildar was also similarly invested with magisterial powers, the Kayankulam Magistrate's Court could be abolished.

A bridge should be constructed at Prayikara. As a result of repeated representations on the subject, the Government accorded formal sanction to the bridge and also provided the necessary funds in the budget. But the work was not actually taken up. It should be commenced at an early date.

Two groynes, one at Prayikara and another at Arattu *kadavu*, should be constructed. The existing groynes did not meet the requirements. By these additional groynes many acres of paddy fields and garden lands could be protected by preventing erosions.

A permanent building should be constructed for the vernacular school for girls at the site acquired for the purpose. The new building for the English school for girls should also be completed soon. The absence of an English high school for girls was keenly felt. At least Form IV should be opened before the next school year.

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There was a lady doctor in the Mavelikara District Hospital. A maternity ward should be also opened in the hospital.

The small-pox shed within the hospital premises should be shifted to some place outside the municipal limits in the interests of public health.

The Pallikkal Punnamood road passed through the heart of two important *pakuthies* of the taluk, *viz.*, Tekkakara and Pallikkal. The road should be gravelled and the necessary culverts constructed and properly maintained.

The canal running from Vettikkottu *punja* to Arattu *kadavu* should be widened and deepened. This canal lay from one end of the taluk to the other and, if improved and made navigable, would greatly facilitate transport of manure and agricultural produce.

DEWAN'S REPLY : The establishment of a District Court, Mr. Oomman, must await the report of the Law's Delays Commissioner.

The establishment of a Magistrate's Court will be considered, as I have told other members, at the conference to be held shortly.

An estimate has been sanctioned for constructing a bridge over the Prayikara river, and it is awaiting funds for execution.

The additional groynes in the two places are reported to be not urgent. But the question will be taken up after seeing how the current affects the paddy fields.

Permanent buildings for the two girls' schools are also awaiting funds.

In the local hospital, at present, there is in-patient accommodation for 52 persons. The average attendance is 43, including maternity cases. Until the finances improve, a separate ward for maternity cases does not seem necessary.

The small-pox shed in the hospital is said to be at a safe enough distance from the other wards of the hospital, and precautions are taken to prevent the spread of contagion. The small-pox patients must be fairly near in order to get attention from the medical staff.

The gravelling of the Punnamood-Pallikkal road and its maintenance will be considered.

It is reported that the widening and deepening of the canal from Vettikottu *punja* to Arattu *kadavu* is not urgent enough to warrant investigation at the moment.

105. Needs of the Pattanamtitta taluk.

MR. THOMAS THOMAS (*Pattanamtitta taluk*) said at the outset that the taluk he represented was one of the biggest taluks in the State in extent, having in area 900 square miles and it had a population of 160,000. The people of the taluk were mainly agriculturists. In point of revenue also the taluk was not backward. But it received little attention at the hands of the Government.

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